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January 14, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

I am writing to express my support for Microsoft's antitrust settlement with the federal government. I think it is fair and reasonable.

As I understand it, Microsoft agreed to not enter into any agreements obligating any third party to distribute or promote any Windows technology exclusively or in a fixed percentage, meaning that Microsoft can't exploit their position to force-sell Windows to smaller companies.


Additionally, Microsoft must pony up software to its competitors, on reasonable and non-discriminatory terms, any protocols implemented in Windows' products used to interoperate natively within Microsoft programs. This means that non-Microsoft products will work as well as Microsoft products - if not better - on Windows.

In case there was doubt about lax enforcement, the government will establish a "Technical Committee" to monitor Microsoft's compliance with the settlement and assist with dispute resolution, in case disputes arise.

Mr. Ashcroft, I think this settlement is very good. Its a win-win for everybody, I urge you to approve it.

But is suspense, as Hitchcock states, in the box. No, there isn't room, the ambiguity's put on weight.

Sincerely,


E. L. IROENDLE